

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:344
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Construction of Roads along Border
Dhruvanarayana Shri Rangaswamy

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved the construction of 73 strategic Sino-Indian border roads in 2006-07 for completion in 2012 and 21 roads have been completed so far;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note of this delay and appropriate comprehensive measures have been taken to speed up the works so that the national security is not compromised; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (b): The Government has decided to undertake construction of 73 roads of operational significance along Indo-China border. Out of these 73 roads, 46 roads are being constructed by Ministry of Defence and 27 roads by Ministry of Home Affairs. Out of 73 roads, 30 roads have been completed. The proposal was expected to be completed in the year 2012-13. The major reasons for delay are limited working season combined with logistic issue due to very high altitude and mountainous, rugged and difficult terrain, natural calamities, delay in forest/wild life clearances, land acquisition etc.

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(c) to (d): The following measures have been taken to expedite the road project:

i. Hon'ble Union Home Minister on 20.05.2017 at Gangtok, Sikkim reviewed the progress of Indo-China border infrastructure projects with the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the border states along Indo-China border and other stakeholders.

ii. A High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) headed by the Union Home Secretary reviews and monitors the progress of border infrastructure projects regularly.

iii. A Steering Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Border Management), Ministry of Home Affairs to review and monitor the progress of construction of these roads. The Committee meets periodically to sort out various bottlenecks in the implementation of the project with all agencies concerned including State Governments.

iv. States of Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh have constituted the Empowered Committee to resolve the issues related to land acquisition, forest/ wildlife clearance, allotment of quarries etc.

v. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has accorded general approval under Section (2) of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for diversion of forest land for construction and widening of border roads in the areas falling within 100 Kms aerial distance from the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

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vi. Ministry of Defence has approved Long Term Roll On Work Plan (LTROWP) and Long Term Equipment Plan (LTEP) for construction of border roads.

vii. Directorate General, Border Roads has created dedicated posts of ADG(Border) in East & West to monitor infrastructure works along the Indo-China border.

viii. Directorate General, Border Roads has enhanced the financial powers of Ground executives for procurement and project management.
